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U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

Prineville District Office
3050 N.E. Third
Prineville, Oregon 97754

Baker Resource Area
3165 10th Street
Baker City, Oregon 97814

September 1997

Executive Summary for the Northeast Oregon Assembled Land Exchange (NOALE) and Environmental Impact Statement



HD
243
.07
N6784
1997
v. 1

reek drainage, within the JV Ranch acquisition area.

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interest of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.

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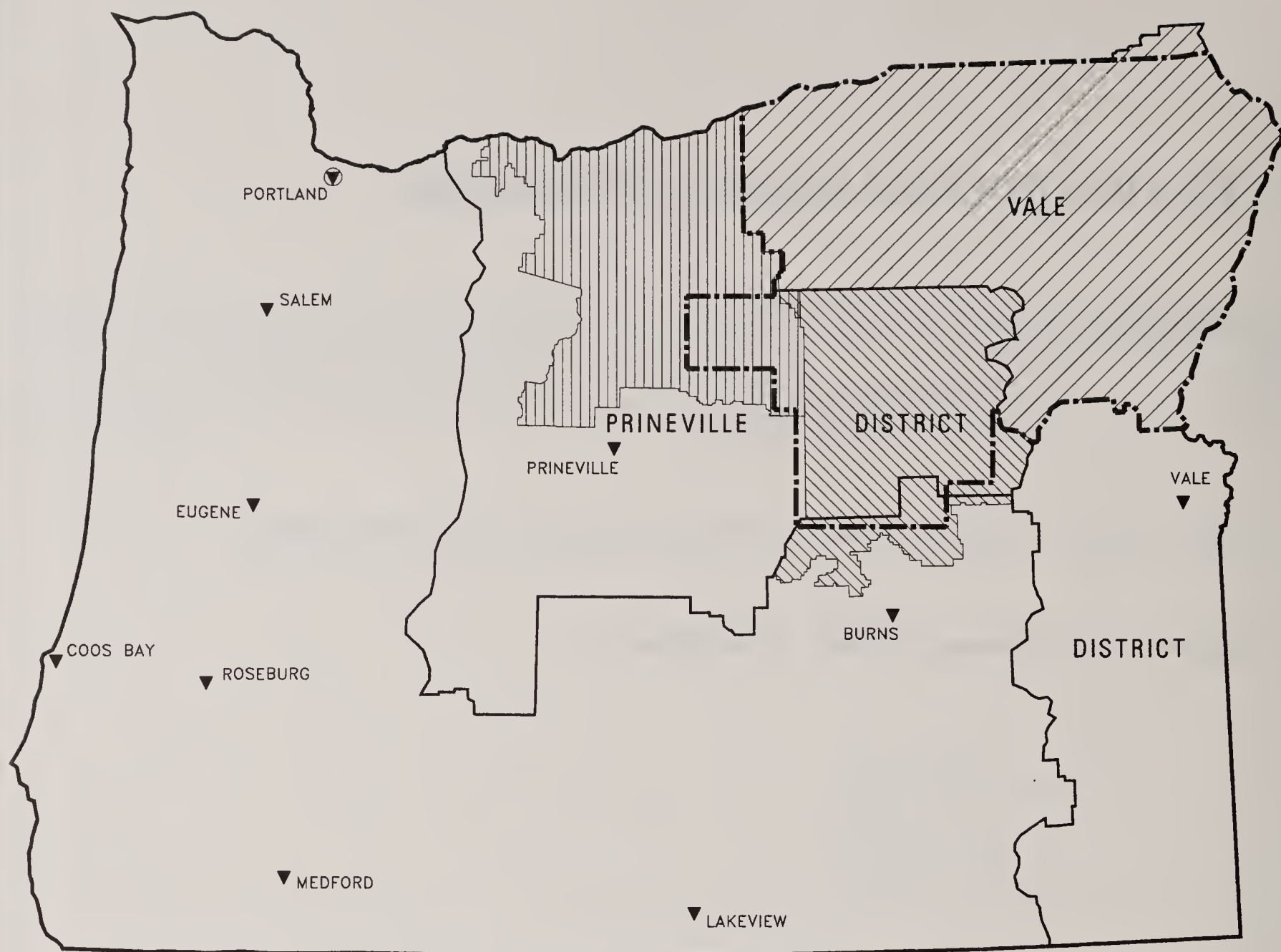
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v. 1

Environmental Impact Statement

Applicants: Pioneer Resources
JV Ranch
Prairie Wood Products
Various private landowners

BLM Offices: Prineville District, and Baker Resource Area in Vale District

Location of Proposed Action: See Figure 1-1



- BLM State Office
- ▼ BLM District Office
- District Boundary
- - - Land Exchange
- Two Rivers RMP
- John Day RMP
- Baker Resource Area RMP



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Bureau of Land Management

Prineville and Vale Districts

NORTHEAST OREGON ASSEMBLED LAND EXCHANGE EIS

1997

Figure 1-1
GENERAL LOCATION



C10-06-96



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Prineville District Office
P.O. Box 550 (3050 N.E. 3rd Street)
Prineville, Oregon 97754

2200

September, 1997

Dear Public Land User,

Thank you for your interest in the Northeastern Oregon Assembled Land Exchange and proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP) maintenance for retention, exchange, and disposal of public land. The enclosed Phase 1 assembled exchange action, plan maintenance, and draft environmental impact statement (EIS) address alternatives for the identification and management of specific parcels that may be disposed to more effectively meet ecosystem management objectives and to consolidate BLM-managed lands for more effective and efficient resource protection, enhancement and use, while assuring that retained lands have sufficient public benefit to merit the costs of management.

The document has been prepared using available scientific information on the regional issues for several sensitive resources and fish and wildlife habitats. The environmental impact statement demonstrates how the original assembled land exchange proposal was redefined by BLM to provide retention of areas with major public values (as described in alternative 1).

A "No Action" (Alternative 2) strategy would allow continuation of case-by-case exchanges without a comprehensive overview or strategy. The third alternative was specifically designed to reflect concerns identified during public scoping.

The purpose of the environmental impact statement is to analyze probable environmental impacts of the three alternatives, including the BLM's preferred alternative. We would appreciate your comments on the adequacy of the analysis. Types of comments that are most useful in the analysis and decision process include comments that:

- Are as specific as possible, identifying values by parcel number or legal description as shown in the text, tables, and maps.
- Address appropriateness of alternatives, including parcels that should be added or deleted from the proposed exchange for specific resource values in Alternatives 1 and 3.
- Identify unaddressed issues (but please note our concurrent formal consultation efforts under the Endangered Species Act, and coordination and consultation with various State, local and Tribal leaders).
- Provide new information, especially where parcel or area-specific where it may influence either land retention or acquisition.
- Address adequacy of analysis and described expected impacts.
- Identify errors in data or analysis.

Please keep in mind that this is an environmental impact statement and the decision makers may accept known or assumed significant environmental impacts on BLM-managed lands following exchange into private ownership, providing the acquired lands are expected to provide long-term compensating values and enhanced protection for regionally significant resources.

Public comments may be mailed to the Prineville BLM District Office, Attention: Dick Cosgriffe, Area Manager; P.O. Box 550, Prineville, OR 97754; or they may be presented at public meetings scheduled between the first and second weeks of November at the following locations each at 7pm:

John Day:	Alec Gay Hall
Heppner:	171 West Linden Way, Heppner
Pendleton:	Doubletree Inn, 204 S.E. Nye Avenue, Pendleton
Baker City:	Sunridge Inn, 1 Sunridge Place, Baker City

Please contact Steve Davidson, Baker City, (541) 523-1349 and/or Ron Lane, Prineville (541) 416-6752 for final meeting dates.

All comments must be submitted by December 16, 1997. Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Prineville District and Baker Resource Area offices during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published in whole or in part in the final EIS or other related documents. Copies of the comments will also be included in the public book at the Heppner Library.

Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

A proposed decision will be prepared after review of all public and interagency comments and revisions, corrections, or adjustments made to the environmental impact statement. Any person who participated in the planning process and has an interest that is or may be adversely affected by the proposed decision will have the opportunity to protest such decision after it has been made available, in accordance with 43 Code of Federal Regulations 1610.5-2.

Preliminary issues, a draft of retention and disposal criteria, and possible alternatives were identified in scoping documents and subsequent newsletters to known interested parties. The concerns and issues that were identified are also summarized in Chapter 1. Numerous suggestions from the public input have been incorporated into this plan maintenance and assembled exchange proposal. We feel this document portrays the best array of alternatives concerning land tenure adjustments.

If you would like further information about the RMP amendments and plan maintenance for the land tenure zone change, assembled exchange, or environmental impact statement process beyond what is presented in this document, or at the open house and public meetings, please

contact Dick Cosgriffe or Ron Lane at the BLM's Prineville District (541) 416-6700; or Penny Dunn or Dorothy Mason at the BLM's Baker Resource Area (541) 523-1256.

Some of the supporting record that is germane to this analysis and not subject to exemption under the Freedom of Information Act will also be available for inspection during normal working hours at the following BLM offices:

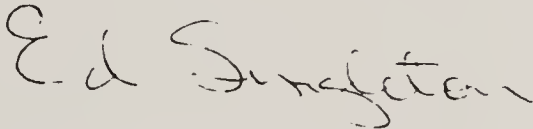
John Day Project Office, 431 Patterson Bridge Road, John Day, Oregon
Prineville District Office, 3050 N.E. 3rd St., Prineville, Oregon
Baker Resource Area, 3165 10th, Baker City, Oregon
Vale BLM District Office, 100 Oregon Street, Vale, Oregon
Oregon State BLM "Land Office"; 1515 SW Fifth Street (7th floor), Portland, Oregon

The draft EIS does not include any Biological Assessments prepared under requirements of the Endangered Species Act, specific parcel appraisals, timber cruises on private lands offered under the exchange, or names of private citizens who may have participated in the planning and analysis record but have not given permission to release their names and addresses. Biological Assessments are being prepared and will be available for public review prior to the exchanges.

We appreciate the public involvement to date and encourage your continued interest in the management of public lands in the Central Oregon and Baker Resource Areas in the Prineville and Vale Districts, respectively.

Sincerely,

for) 
James L. Hancock
District Manager, Prineville


Ed Singleton
District Manager, Vale

Enclosure: As stated above

Acronyms

ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
ACOE	Army Corps of Engineers
AIRFA	American Indian Religious Freedom Act
ARPA	Archaeological Resources Protection Act
ATV	All terrain vehicle
AUM	Animal Unit Month
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
cfs	cubic feet per second
CFL	Commercial forestland
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CLE	Clearwater Land Exchange
CTWS	Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
CTUIR	Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation
DBH	diameter at breast height
DEQ	Department of Environmental Quality
EA	environmental assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ESU	Ecologically significant unit
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FLPMA	Federal Land Policy Management Act
FR	Federal Register
HMA	herd management area
HMP	habitat management plan
JODA	John Day Fossil Beds National Monument
LSF	Loggins storage facility
MFP	management framework plan
MBF	thousand board feet (timber measurement)
MMBF	million board feet (timber measurement)
MOU	memorandum of understanding
NAGPA	Native American Graves Protection Act
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NOALE	Northeast Oregon Assembled Land Exchange
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge
ODFW	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
OHV	Offhighway vehicle
ONHP	Oregon Natural Heritage Program
OR/WA	Oregon/Washington
OWRD	Oregon Water Resources Department

PACFISH	Environmental Assessment for the Implementation of Interim Strategies for Managing Anadromous Fish-producing Watersheds in Eastern Oregon and Washington, Idaho, and Portions of California
PFC	Proper functioning condition
PNC	potential natural community
ppb	parts per billion
ppm	parts per million
PUF	prime and unique farmlands
RA	resource area
RHCA	Riparian Habitat Conservation Area (PACFISH)
RM	river mile
RMP	Resource management plan
ROD	Record of Decision
TCP	traditional cultural property
USFS	United States Forest Service
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Service
VRM	Visual Resources Management
WSA	Wilderness Study Act
WSR	Wild and Scenic River

Executive Summary

Background

The Northeast Oregon Assembled Land Exchange (NOALE) environmental impact statement addresses the potential disposal of between 75,000 and 90,000 acres of BLM-managed public lands and potential acquisition of approximately 70,000 acres of equitably valued lands in Grant, Umatilla, Morrow, Wheeler, Baker, Wallowa, and Union counties. These lands are within the Central Oregon and Baker Resource Areas in the Prineville and Vale Bureau of Land Management Districts, respectively. This EIS also addresses plan maintenance for the Baker Resource Management Plan to create a 3-zone land tenure adjustment strategy.

This exchange proposal is both an assembled and facilitated (by private entity) action where lands from multiple ownerships (public and private) are brought together in a common pool for exchange or sale to other ownerships.

Land tenure adjustments in northeast central Oregon have been discussed for over ten years. The need to improve management efficiency through the land tenure adjustment program (disposal of small, isolated tracts for larger blocks of contiguous lands) was identified in the John Day RMP of 1984, its Record of Decision (ROD) of 1985, and a subsequent RMP Amendment of 1995. The exchanges would implement most land tenure adjustments addressed in the Baker, Two Rivers, and John Day RMPs.

Scope of the Proposal

Because of the complexity and size of NOALE, the exchanges would occur in an initial Phase 1 and future exchanges. Phase I would involve disposal of approximately 50,000 acres of public lands primarily in Grant County, with lesser amounts in Umatilla, Morrow, and Wheeler counties. Future exchanges would involve lands primarily in Baker, Union and Grant counties, with lesser amounts in Umatilla, Morrow, Wallowa, and Wheeler counties. This executive summary focuses on resource values of lands identified for Phase 1.

Private lands to be acquired in future phases have not all been specifically identified as yet; however, they must meet certain criteria as discussed in

Chapter 1 of this EIS. Most private lands to be acquired are expected to be in Baker and Grant counties, but could also be in Union, Wallowa, Morrow, and/or Umatilla counties. Environmental Assessments (EA), tiered to this EIS, would be prepared for future exchanges. The EAs would further describe the resources on the public and private lands involved and the impacts resulting from the exchanges.

Two alternatives (Alternative 1 - Preferred and Alternative 3 - Retention) and the No Action Alternative (Alternative 2) were developed and analyzed to address a range of actions and to consider issues about the exchange. Both action alternatives (1 and 2) propose repositioning of BLM's land assets from many scattered tracts into contiguous blocks of public lands with high resource values.

The alternatives respond to six issues and concerns identified in the planning and public scoping process, which consisted of public meetings, public tours, newsletter mailings, and consultations with Federal and state agencies, and local and tribal governments. The issues identified during this process were:

- *Resource management on tracts considered for disposal or acquisition* (Including presumed changes in land use following the exchange).
- *Land Manageability* (Includes public access and administrative costs of managing isolated, scattered tracts).
- *Wildlife Habitat* (Includes old-growth habitat and riparian areas/wetlands).
- *Columbia Basin Shrub-Steppe Habitat* (Discussed separately due to its uniqueness as an important vegetation component in the Umatilla Basin).
- *Forestlands Containing a Large Tree Component* (Included in the forestland discussion for forest stands containing trees over 21" in DBH).
- *Socioeconomics* (Including effects on county revenues, employment changes due to changing timber harvest levels, and impacts to local livestock industry and recreational opportunities).

Phase I Exchanges

The Preferred Alternative (Alternative 1) proposes the potential disposal of approximately 50,000 acres of public lands, primarily on scattered tracts, and the acquisition of approximately 47,400 acres,

Executive Summary

mostly on the North Fork John Day River and tributaries (about 43,000 acres), and lesser amounts on the South Fork John Day River and tributaries. Acquisition lands contain nearly 60 miles of salmonid fish habitat (54 miles anadromous), 286-500 acres of riparian habitat on 71.5 miles of perennial streams, important big game wintering habitat for 1,200-1,500 elk and 3,000-4,000 mule deer, and a wide range of recreational opportunities accessible on contiguous blocks of land (Table S-1). Of the lands considered for disposal, nearly 80 percent lack public access and approximately 80 percent are 80 acres or less in size. In contrast, the potential acquisition lands are large blocks of contiguous lands that would be accessible to the general public.

Alternative 3 (Retention Alternative) proposes the potential disposal of approximately 33,400 acres of public lands, primarily on scattered tracts, and the acquisition of approximately 19,200 acres on uplands and tributaries of the North Fork John Day River (JV Ranch). Potential acquisition lands contain nearly 18 miles of anadromous salmonid fish habitat, 74-130 acres of riparian habitat on 18.5 miles of perennial streams, important big game wintering habitat for 1,200-1,500 elk and 3,000-4,000 mule deer, and a wide range of recreational opportunities accessible on one contiguous block of land (Table S-1). In comparison to the Preferred Alternative, the key difference is that the Retention Alternative would retain all potential disposal tracts that contain Columbia Basin Shrub-Steppe habitat or forestlands with a large tree component. This alternative was analyzed to respond to concerns about these habitats.

Anticipated impacts for Phase I of the exchange proposal are discussed below by resource value.

Vegetation: Long-range improvements would be expected in vegetative condition under Alternatives 1 and 3. Little change is anticipated under Alternative 2.

Forestlands Containing Large Tree Component: In Alternative 1, there would be a net gain of 511 acres of forestlands containing large tree component. In the long term, moderate benefits are expected because these are contiguous lands that can be managed more effectively. The moderate rating is due to the density of large trees on acquisition lands being less than on disposal lands. Alternative 3 would result in slight benefits with a net gain of 370 acres of forestlands containing large tree component.

Riparian Areas/Water: Under Alternative 1, substantial improvements could be expected in riparian habitats and water quality with the acquisition of over 71 miles of perennial streams (approximately 12.5 perennial stream miles are on disposal lands). Moderate improvements to water quality and riparian habitats is expected under Alternative 3 with the acquisition of over 18 miles of perennial streams (2.2 miles disposal).

Columbia Basin Shrub-Steppe Habitat: Under Alternative 1, approximately 2,000 acres of this habitat type would be disposed; however, only about 100 of these acres are in good ecological condition with a full component of native plant species. About 215 acres of this shrub steppe habitat on four parcels would likely be converted to agricultural or urban uses, impacting the resource slightly. Vegetation on the remaining disposal parcels (including all that are in good ecological condition) would not be substantially affected, as current uses would likely continue. Under Alternatives 2 and 3, this habitat type would be retained; current uses would continue, causing no impacts to the current condition of these parcels.

Wildlife Habitat: Wildlife habitats would benefit substantially under Alternative 1. Over 71 miles of riparian habitat crucial for many wildlife species would be acquired. For comparison, 12.8 miles of riparian habitat (on 33 parcels) is considered for disposal. Critical winter range supporting 1,200-1,500 elk and 3,000-4,000 mule deer, as well as historic California bighorn sheep habitat, would also be acquired.

Wildlife habitat would benefit moderately under Alternative 3. Crucial big game winter range and a net gain of 14 miles of riparian habitat could be acquired.

Old-Growth Forest Habitat: There would be a net loss of 527 acres of old-growth forest habitat (1,127 acres disposed, 600 acres acquired) under Alternative 1. This would have slight to moderate impact on wildlife species dependent on this habitat type. Under Alternatives 2 and 3, no old-growth forest habitat would be disposed.

Fisheries: Fish habitats would benefit substantially under Alternative 1 (net gain of 51 miles of habitat). The benefits of an additional 59 miles of fish habitat within contiguous land blocks and adjacent to National Forest lands would outweigh the potential impacts on stream segments considered for disposal (8.25 miles on 26 parcels).

Table S-1. Summary Comparison of Alternatives (Phase 1 Exchanges)			
Element	Alternative 1 (Preferred)	Alternative 2 (No Action)	Alternative 3 (Retention Areas)
Public Land Identified for Potential Disposal	50,140 acres	Subject to requests, tract-by-tract.	33,440 acres
Private Land Identified for Potential Acquisition	47,400 acres	Subject to request, tract-by-tract.	19,240 acres
Riparian Habitat (perennial stream/riparian acres) Potential Disposal Potential Acquisition	12.8 mi./51-90 acres 71.5 mi./286-500 acres	N/A	5.0 mi./20-35 acres 18.5 mi./74-130 acres
Anadromous and Resident Trout Salmonid Habitat Potential Disposal Potential Acquisition	8.54 miles 59.40 miles	N/A	3.60 miles 17.70 miles
Commercial Forestlands Potential Disposal Potential Acquisition	7,646 acres 10,634 acres	N/A	1,134 acres 1,160 acres
Forestlands Containing Large Tree Component Potential Disposal Potential Acquisition	4,299 acres 4,810 acres	N/A	0 370 acres
Old-growth Forest Habitat Potential Disposal Potential Acquisition	1,128 acres 600 acres	N/A	0 70
Columbia Basin Shrub-Steppe Habitat Potential Disposal Potential Acquisition	2,089 acres 0 acres	N/A	0 0
Number of Grazing Allotments Potential Disposal Potential Acquisition	125 allotments 5 allotments	N/A	50 1
Legal Access (# of tracts/# of acres) Potential Disposal Potential Acquisition	90 tracts/15,190 acres 18 tracts/47,400 acres		34 tracts/9,900 acres 1 tract/19,240 acres

¹Acres/miles are estimates only and may not be additive in many cases due to overlapping resource use/value.

Executive Summary

Fish habitats would benefit slightly to moderately under Alternative 3 (net gain of 14 miles of habitat).

Special Status Species: Alternative 1 would have positive impacts to Federally listed threatened and endangered species. The North Fork John Day River serves as wintering habitat for bald eagles. Three bald eagle roosts that are currently on lands in private ownership would be included in the acquisition, and an additional 12 bald eagle roost sites exist on BLM-managed lands that are adjacent to blocks of private lands considered for acquisition. Federal management of these surrounding private lands could prove beneficial to this species in the long term. Approximately 12 miles of winter migrating bull trout habitat could be acquired on the North Fork (bull trout are a Proposed Threatened species). Only 0.6 miles (two parcels on the Middle Fork John Day) of historic bull trout habitat (currently unoccupied) would be disposed. Under Alternative 3, bald eagles may utilize habitat acquired on tributaries within the JV Ranch (Wall Creek and Ditch Creek drainages); no bull trout habitat would be acquired or disposed.

Further, no Federally listed plant species were found on any of the potential disposal parcels and none are known to exist on the proposed acquisition parcels.

Recreational Opportunities: Under Alternative 1, acquiring about 43,000 acres of blocked, contiguous lands along the North Fork John Day River and tributaries would provide outstanding opportunities for dispersed recreation including fishing, hunting, hiking, camping, mountain biking, and wildlife viewing. Fewer opportunities would be available under Alternative 3, as only 20,000 acres would be acquired in a large block. Generally, there are few recreational opportunities on disposal tracts that do have legal access due to their small size.

Access: The public's ability to access BLM-managed lands would be greatly enhanced under Alternative 1. Approximately 47,400 acres on 18 parcels of acquisition lands would be accessible by the general public, while only 15,190 acres (on 90 tracts) of the 50,000 acres considered for disposal currently have legal access. Under Alternative 3, 19,000 acres of acquisition lands (one tract) would be accessible, while 9,900 acres (34 tracts) of the 33,400 acres considered for disposal currently have legal access.

Wild and Scenic Rivers: Acquisition of 4 miles of the South Fork John Day Wild and Scenic River under Alternative 1 would improve BLM's ability to protect and manage the river's outstandingly remarkable values. A net gain of 1,140 acres within the proposed Wild and Scenic River boundary (1,270 acquisition acres, 130 disposal acres within the boundary) could come into BLM management.

FEMA-Designated Floodplains: BLM holdings of designated floodplains would show a net increase of 60 acres (South Fork John Day River) under Alternative 1. Another 220 acres of non-designated floodplains could be acquired on the North Fork John Day River. Floodplain function would be expected to improve under public ownership and management when large blocks are acquired. No impacts to designated floodplains would occur under Alternative 3.

Soils: Minor impacts to upland and lowland soils is anticipated from timber harvesting activities and agricultural/urban conversion of rangelands under Alternatives 1 and 3.

Cultural Resources/Traditional Use Areas: Consolidation of public lands along the North Fork John Day River and its tributaries and the South Fork John Day River under Alternative 1 would moderately enhance tribal access to usual and accustomed hunting and gathering areas. Disposal of Federal lands would reduce or eliminate opportunities for tribes to use some traditional areas; however, treaty-reserved rights and traditional uses would apply to all newly acquired lands, which would potentially reduce the effect of land disposal on tribal interests.

Under the No Action Alternative (Alternative 2), BLM's knowledge of culture resources on public lands considered for disposal would be greatly enhanced because of extensive surveys conducted on those lands. However, cultural use of most parcels is subject to securing legal access.

Alternative 3 would slightly improve tribal access to traditional use areas and dispose less public lands that may contain cultural resources.

Paleontological Resources: Under Alternative 1, there would be loss of some geologic features containing fossils. However, the information gained through the inventory process would provide important data otherwise lost forever. Under the No Action Alternative (Alternative 2), BLM's knowledge of paleontological resources on public

lands considered for disposal would be greatly enhanced because of extensive surveys conducted on those lands. Similarly, Alternative 3 would allow for the gain of important information without substantial loss of lands containing geologic features with fossils.

Timber Resources: In the short term, BLM would have less commercial timber volume available for harvest under Alternative 1. Disposal forestlands (7,646 acres) contain approximately 60 million board feet, while acquisition lands (10,634 acres) contain approximately 45 million board feet. In the long term, BLM would benefit from having a larger commercial forest acreage base capable of producing more timber than the current ownership and management status. No change is anticipated under Alternative 3 in BLM's commercial forest base capacities.

Livestock Grazing: Little change is anticipated in grazing uses, except that appropriate use levels would be determined on acquisition lands that protect habitat for special status species. Administration duties and efficiencies would be greatly improved under Alternative 1 due to approximately 125 grazing allotments being fully or partially eliminated on disposal lands. About five allotments would be formed or expanded from existing grazing allotments on acquisition lands.

Under Alternative 3, approximately 50 grazing allotments would be fully or partially eliminated, with only one existing allotment expanded. Like Alternative 1, this alternative would substantially decrease grazing administration duties, allowing for more involved livestock grazing management on lands that possess high resource values and blocked lands.

Air Quality: Slight immeasurable impacts to air quality could occur under Alternative 1, particularly since 11 rangeland tracts could be converted to agriculture uses and 5 parcels to urban uses and construction in the Umatilla Basin. Under Alternative 3, minor immeasurable impacts to air quality are anticipated.

Land Manageability/Efficiency: Land manageability would be greatly enhanced under Alternative 1. Approximately 80 percent of the tracts considered for disposal are 80 acres or less in size, and nearly 80 percent of the tracts lack public access. Because of the scattered pattern and small size, these disposal tracts are difficult and inefficient to manage and cause many administrative problems for both public and private

land managers. By contrast, acquisition lands are generally large blocks and would be accessible to the public for a variety of uses and enjoyment. Land manageability would also be improved under Alternative 3, but substantially less than under Alternative 1.

Socioeconomic Values: Under Alternative 1, socioeconomic values would be enhanced slightly to moderately. Disposal of forested tracts would provide timber to local mills. Ranch managers would benefit by eliminating BLM-managed land inholdings, thereby increasing efficiency in their ranch operations. Alternative 3 would have little impact on socioeconomics, but some ranches would be more efficient after eliminating BLM-managed land inholdings within their property boundaries.

Cumulative Impacts of the Entire Proposal

Although many future exchanges are not yet defined, the overall impacts of the entire proposal exchange parcels identified to date are portrayed in Table S-2.

The cumulative effect of implementing the land tenure adjustments described in this EIS, coupled with existing decisions implemented by other land-managing Federal, state and local agencies in the area, is expected to have a regionally limited long-term positive effect. Table S-3 delineates the specific anticipated impacts of the exchange proposal, including both Phase 1 and future exchanges identified to date.

Table S-2. Summary of Overall Impacts to all Resources by Alternatives			
Resource Element	Alternative 1 (Preferred) ¹	Alternative 2 (No Action)	Alternative 3 (Retention)
Vegetation	+M	NC	+L
Forestlands with large tree component	+M	NC	+L
Riparian Areas/Water	+H	NC	+M
Columbia Basin Shrub-Steppe	-L	NC	NC
Wildlife	+H	NC	+M
Old-Growth Forest Habitat	-M	NC	NC
Fisheries	+H	NC	+M
Threatened and Endangered Species	+H	NC	+L
Recreational Opportunities	+H	NC	+M
Access	+H	NC	+M
Wild and Scenic Rivers	+M	NC	NC
FEMA ² Designated Floodplains	+L	NC	NC
Soils	-L	NC	-L
Cultural Resources/Traditional Use Areas	+M	NC	+L
Paleontological Resources	+M	NC	+L
Timber Resources	-L	NC	NC
Livestock Grazing	NC	NC	NC
Air Quality	-L	NC	-L
Land Manageability/Efficiency	+H	NC	+M
Socioeconomic Values	+L	NC	NC

¹ + = Beneficial - = Adverse H = High
 M = Moderate L = Low NC = No Change

² Federal Emergency Management Act

The cumulative effect of implementing the land tenure adjustments described in this EIS, coupled with existing decisions implemented by other land-managing Federal, state and local agencies in the area, is expected to have a regionally limited long-term positive effect. Table S-3 delineates the specific anticipated impacts of the exchange proposal, including Phase 1 and future exchanges identified to date.

Table S-3. Cumulative Impact Comparison of Alternatives for Entire Proposal (Phase I and Future Exchanges) ¹				
<i>Element</i>	<i>Alternative 1 (Preferred)</i>	<i>Alternative 2 (No Action)</i>	<i>Alternative 3 (Retention Areas)</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Public Land Identified for Potential Disposal	92,209 acres	Subject to requests, tract-by-tract.	57,090 acres	
Private Land Identified for Potential Acquisition	69,540 acres in John Day & Umatilla Basins plus undetermined lands in Grande Ronde & Powder River Basins	Subject to request, tract-by-tract.	19,240 acres in John Day Basin plus undetermined lands in Grande Ronde & Powder River Basins	Undetermined acquisitions to be of equal value to disposed lands.
Riparian Habitat (perennial stream/riparian acres) Potential Disposal Potential Acquisition	38.1 mi./141-264 acres 82.1 mi./328-574 acres plus undetermined riparian values in Grande Ronde & Powder River Basins	N/A	10.4mi./41-73 acres 18.5 mi./74-130 acres in John Day Basin plus undetermined riparian values in Grande Ronde & Powder River Basins	Potential disposal of riparian not yet determined for Powder River Basin.
Anadromous and Resident Trout Salmonid Habitat Potential Disposal Potential Acquisition	13.95 miles 67.2 miles plus undetermined salmonid habitat in Grande Ronde & Powder River Basins	N/A	5.83 miles 17.70 miles plus undetermined riparian values in Grande Ronde & Powder River Basins	

Table S-3. Cumulative Impact Comparison of Alternatives for Entire Proposal (Phase I and Future Exchanges) ¹				
<i>Element</i>	<i>Alternative 1 (Preferred)</i>	<i>Alternative 2 (No Action)</i>	<i>Alternative 3 (Retention Areas)</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Commercial Forestlands Potential Disposal Potential Acquisition	16,109 acres 19,824 acres plus undetermined forest land in Grande Ronde & Powder River Basins	N/A	3,966 acres 1,160 acres plus undetermined forest land in Grande Ronde & Powder River Basins	
Forestlands Containing Large Tree Component Potential Disposal Potential Acquisition	7,859 acres 7,200 acres plus undetermined forest land in Grande Ronde & Powder River Basins	N/A	0 370 acres plus undetermined forest land in Grande Ronde & Powder River Basins	
Old-growth Forest Habitat Potential Disposal Potential Acquisition	2,914 acres 870 acres plus undetermined forestland in Grande Ronde & Powder River Basins	N/A	0 acres 0 acres plus undetermined forestland in Grande Ronde & Powder River Basins	
Columbia Basin Shrub-Steppe Habitat Potential Disposal Potential Acquisition	5,193 acres 0 acres	N/A	0 acres 0 acres	

Table S-3. Cumulative Impact Comparison of Alternatives for Entire Proposal (Phase I and Future Exchanges) ¹				
<i>Element</i>	<i>Alternative 1 (Preferred)</i>	<i>Alternative 2 (No Action)</i>	<i>Alternative 3 (Retention Areas)</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Number of Grazing Allotments Potential Disposal Potential Acquisition	222 allotments 5 allotments plus an undetermined number in Grande Ronde & Powder River Basins	N/A	89 allotments 1 allotment plus an undetermined number in Grande Ronde & Powder River Basins	Number of new allotments likely to be very small in Grande Ronde & Powder River Basins.
Legal Access	For analysis purposes, legal access to acquired lands is assumed to match the 3:1 ratio to disposed lands in Phase 1.		For analysis purposes, legal access to acquired lands is assumed to match the 2:1 ratio to disposed lands in Phase 1.	

¹Acres/miles are estimates only and may not be additive due to overlapping resource use/value.

Undetermined values represent present data gaps that will be inventoried and analyzed in future land exchange environmental assessments tiered to this EIS.

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